REMARKS

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the present application in view of the foregoing amendments and in view of the reasons that follow.

Status of Claims:

Claims 6 and 9-21 are currently being cancelled.

Claims 1 and 7 are currently being amended.

No claims are currently being added.

This response amends and cancels claims in this application. A detailed listing of all claims that are, or were, in the application, irrespective of whether the claims remain under examination in the application, is presented, with an appropriate defined status identifier.

After amending and canceling the claims as set forth above, claims 1-8 are now pending in this application.

Request for Entry of After-final Amendment and Reply:

It is respectfully requested that this 'after-final' amendment and reply be considered and entered, since: a) it raises no new issues that would require further consideration and/or search (since it merely puts the features of dependent claim 6 into independent claim 1), and b) it lessens the number of potential issues for appeal (by canceling claims 6 and 9-21).

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 112, 1st Paragraph:

In the Office Action, claims 6 and 7 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, 1st paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement, whereby the specification allegedly does not have support for "a plurality of different sleep states as claimed in claim 6." This rejection is traversed with respect to presently pending claims 1 and 7 (whereby the features of claim 6 are now included in presently pending claim 1), for the reasons given below.

Page 10, lines 1-11 of the specification clearly describes "a plurality of sleep states S1 to S4", whereby transitions between these sleep states are explained in the specification and are shown in Figure 3. As explained in this section of the specification, "[t]o cause one of the transitions to occur, the operating system must write to a predefined register, in the present example the SLP_EN register, and it is this step of writing to the predefined register that provides a usable transition or restore instruction." As explained on page 11, lines 26-28 of the specification, the value written into the SLP_EN register may be "a three-bit number corresponding [to] the number of the required sleep state."

Thus, there is clear written description support for the features recited in presently pending independent claim 1 (which includes the features of now-cancelled claim 6), as well as the features of claim 7.

Accordingly, all of the presently pending claims are fully compliant with 35 U.S.C. § 112, 1st paragraph.

Claim Rejections – Prior Art:

In the Office Action, claims 1-5 and 8-21 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,549,968 to Hart in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,864,708 to Croft et al., whereby claims 6 and 7 were not rejected over any art of record. Due to the incorporation of the features of claim 6 into presently pending independent claim 1, due to the dependence of claims 2-5 and 8 from claim 1, and due to the cancellation of claims 6 and 9-21, this rejection is now moot.

Conclusion:

Since all of the issues raised in the final Office Action have been addressed in this Amendment and Reply, Applicant believes that the present application is now in condition for allowance, and an early indication of allowance is respectfully requested.
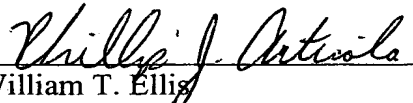
The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone if it is felt that a telephone interview would advance the prosecution of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

March 28, 2006
Date

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